

**THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY,  
INDIANA HELD A MEETING IN THE CITY/COUNTY BUILDING  
ON THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2006.**

The meeting of the **New Albany City Council** was called to order by President Jeff Gahan at 7:32 pm. The meeting opened with the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Council Members Mr. Coffey, Mr. Schmidt, Mr. Price, Mr. Kochert, Mr. Blevins, Mr. Messer, Mr. Seabrook, and President Jeff Gahan. Mrs. Crump was not present.

**OTHERS:** City Attorney Shane Gibson and City Clerk Marcey Wisman.

**ALSO:** John Rosenbarger, Adam Dickey, Scott Wood, Planning and Zoning, Brian Dixon, EMC, Paul Wheatley, Economic Development Director, Tony Toran, Director of City Operations and Mayor James E. Garner, Sr.

**APPROVAL OR CORRECTION OF THE FOLLOWING MINUTES:**

**Mr. Blevins moved to approve the minutes of the June 5 regular meeting as amended, Mr. Kochert second, all voted in favor except Mrs. Crump who was not present.**

**Mr. Schmidt moved to approve the minutes of the June 5 Public Hearing, Mr. Price second, all voted in favor except Mrs. Crump who was not present.**

**Mr. Seabrook moved to amend the agenda to hear CF-1's prior to communications, Mr. Coffey second, all voted in favor except Mrs. Crump who was not present.**

**APPROVAL OF CF-1 FORMS:**

Hitachi Cable Indiana, Inc., Compliance with Statement  
of Benefits, Referencing R-97-10, R-97-11, R-05-46 and  
R-05-47

**Mr. Blevins moved to approve, Mr. Price second, all voted in favor by show of hands except Mrs. Crump who was not present.**

S & J Precision, Inc., Compliance with Statement  
of Benefits, Referencing R-04-37

**Mr. Messer moved to approve, Mr. Seabrook second, all voted in favor by show of hands except Mrs. Crump who was not present.**

**COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC:**

**James Wiggins**, stated that he came before and asked for an ordinance on the abuse of the take home cars and he hasn't heard anything except that the Chief is changing the policy that new officers will not get take home cars and he doesn't believe that is enough for the tax payers.

**Jane Alcorn**, DNA, stated that she thought the issue of the monies pledged for Scribner Place would be on the agenda for tonight and since it wasn't she would save her comments for the next meeting.

**Virginia Martin**, 307 Hayes Drive, thanked the councilman for all their hard work.

**Walter Schultz**, 2244 Park Avenue, gave a statement on his concerns of how gambling is starting to effect the city and the state and he had concerns that the city is using funds from a gambling establishment. He asked the council not to become dependent on

gambling funds. He discussed a program that Caesars now has to help people with gambling problems.

**Valla Ann Bolovshak**, 600 E. Main Street, discussed the agenda item calling for an audit and the issue of the Georgetown settlement. She stated that from looking through the documents that she received from Georgetown that there will be no settlement from Georgetown. She then went through several issues within the State audits and urged the council to pass the resolution for an independent audit.

**David Huckleberry**, discussed the city finances and the need for an audit. He also discussed the current investigation by the Justice Department and the EPA. He then went on to discuss Scribner Place issues and the finances that the city has pledged.

**Sam Montgomery**, addressed the issues that he has with the sewer rates and city finances and the police department.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS – CITY OFFICIALS:**

**Mr. Price** asked to have his vote corrected on G-06-09. He also thanked several individuals that wrote into the paper criticizing him because he has received so many phone calls of support since because of their letters.

**Mr. Coffey** presented pictures showing several pictures showing cracked sidewalks, clogged storm drains, poorly paved roads, and over-flowing garbage cans, and said that these are signs that many of the money needs to be spent in other areas. He said that the Street Department is losing more money this year than they did in previous years.

**Mr. Blevins** explained that the reason the Street Department is more indebt is because they are spending money on dumping that used to be paid by sanitation.

**Mr. Price** asked why the street department is not using the route system any longer for picking up large items and yard waste.

**Mr. Blevins** stated that Mr. Toran has tried to help the Street Department get back on a route system. However, often times that are pulled from their route to run out and do other jobs. He stated that the department is under staffed.

**There was a lengthy discussion regarding the operating policy of the Street Department.**

#### **COMMUNICATIONS – MAYOR:**

**Mayor Garner was not present.**

#### **APPOINTMENTS:**

#### **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:                      READING**

R-06-18                      City of New Albany Resolution R-06-18                      Coffey

**Mr. Coffey introduced R-06-18 which asked for an audit or it could be called an analysis or investigation of the city funds and motioned for the reading by title only, Mr. Price second,**

**Mr. Seabrook** stated that he appreciated that Mr. Coffey used the wording of analysis or investigation. He stated that he would like to see Mr. Coffey narrow the scope of the investigation. He is concerned about who will end up paying for this audit. He also asked if we could have the State Police do the investigation for free.

**There was a lengthy discussion regarding the issues that need to be addressed and the action that needs to be taken by this body.**

**Mr. Coffey** stated that we are hearing that we are going to \$1 M in debt next year because of the drop program and another \$1M in 2008, and the street department is getting deeper in debt and he feels that they need to look at where this money is going.

**There was a lengthy discussion regarding the financial issues of the city and what they need to do to correct the problems.**

**Mr. Seabrook** asked if before we moved forward with this could we have Charlie Pride come down and discuss with them how we should narrow the scope on this investigation. He also suggested that the entire council could meet with Mrs. Garry and ask her the questions that they have about the State Audit.

**Mr. Price** asked Mr. Ulrich who he thinks they need to contact to get this going.

**Mr. Ulrich** stated that he did not know where we need to go he would need to look into this. He explained he believes that the council needs to do one of two things. Either they need to allocate city funds and get bids for this work to be done or they have to pay for it themselves.

**There was a lengthy discussion regarding the scope of the investigation.**

**Mr. Coffey** stated that he was not going to table or amend this resolution and called for the question. The resolution passed with 5 Ayes from Mr. Coffey, Mr. Schmidt, Mr. Price, Mr. Kochert and Mr. Blevins; and 3 Nays from Mr. Messer, Mr. Seabrook and Mr. Gahan.

Z-06-14	An Ordinance for the Vacation of a Public Way Pursuant to a Petition Filed by Timothy M. Janson	Blevins 2&3
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**Mr. Blevins** introduced Z-06-14 and motioned for the second and third reading by title only, Mr. Messer second,

**Mr. Price** brought up the fact that this property could be used by the city at a later date for a park area for the Greenway project.

**Mr. Messer** stated that we are losing tax money.

**Mr. Kochert** asked what Mr. Janson will be using this property for.

**Mr. Hamilton** stated that they are going to use this property to clean up title issues.

**All voted in favor except Mr. Price and Mr. Kochert who voted nay. Bill Z-06-14 became Ordinance Z-06-22.**

Z-06-15	An Ordinance for the Vacation of a Public Way Pursuant to a Petition Filed by Timothy M. Janson	Messer 2&3
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**Mr. Messer** introduced Z-06-15 and motioned for the second and third reading by title only, Mr. Seabrook second, all voted in favor except Mr. Price and Mr. Kochert who voted nay. Bill Z-06-15 became Ordinance Z-06-23.

Z-06-16	An Ordinance for the Vacation of a Public Way Pursuant to a Petition Filed by Timothy M. Janson	Seabrook 2&3
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**Mr. Seabrook** introduced Z-06-16 and motioned for the second and third reading by title only, Mr. Messer second, all voted in favor except Mr. Price and Mr. Kochert who voted nay. Bill Z-06-16 became Ordinance Z-06-24.

**Mr. Coffey** asked that R-06-18 be put on the agenda for the July 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

**Mr. Gahan** asked for the members to come up with ideas of qualifications for the members of the Stormwater Board.

There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

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Jeff Gahan, President  
Common Council, City of New Albany

ATTEST:\_\_\_\_\_  
Marcey J. Wisman, City Clerk